

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 02652 011712Z

63

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20 PC-04 OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-03

DRC-01 /147 W

----- 083409

R 011706Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8348

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS LONDON 02652

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BD, IN, PK

SUBJECT: FRIENDLY COMMENTS ON PAKISTAN FROM SHAIKH MUJIB

1. EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH SHAIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN
PUBLISHED IN THE TIMES FEBRUARY 29, BY KULDIP NAYAR,
TAKES VERY FRIENDLY LINE TOWARDS BHUTTO AND PAKISTAN.

2. AMONG QUOTES ATTRIBUTED TO SHAIKH MUJIB ARE: "WE
ALL THREE COUNTRIES IN THE SUB-CONTINENT HAVE TO LIVE
LIKE GOOD NEIGHBORS AND MUST SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS THROUGH
PEACE".

3. ALSO: "I AM IMPRESSED BY MR. BHUTTO'S SINCERITY.
I AM OVERWHELMED BY THE LOVE AND AFFECTION SHOWN BY THE
PEOPLE OF PAKISTAN. THOUSANDS OF THEM LINED THE
ROUTE FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE VENUE OF THE ISLAMIC
SUMMIT. THEY CALLED ME BY MY NAME, MUJIB. THEY --
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 02652 011712Z

BOYS AND GIRLS ALSO -- LUSTILY CHEERED ME WHEN THEY

SAW THE FAMILIAR KURTA-PYJAMA CLAD FIGURE AMONG THEM."

4. WHEN REMINDED OF THE ATROCITIES COMMITTED IN BANGLADESH BY PAKISTAN, MUJIB IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID: "I WANT TO FORGET ALL THOSE. I WANT MY PEOPLE TO FORGET THOSE. WE HAVE TO START AFRESH. YOU KNOW THAT PEOPLE'S MEMORY IS SHORT." REVERTING TO BHUTTO, MUJIB SAID: "I WANT TO HELP HIM. HE IS AN OLD FRIEND."

5. MUJIB REFUSED TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF KASHMIR.

6. ASKED HOW SOON BANGLADESH WOULD HAVE DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH PAKISTAN, MUJIB SAID, "VERY SOON". HE PARRIED QUESTIONS ON HOW PAKISTAN'S RECOGNITION OF BANGLADESH HAD COME ABOUT.

7. AS TO FUTURE OF 195 POW'S, MUJIB SAID DECISION ON THEM WOULD BE TAKEN BY INDIA, PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH IN ACCOREANCE WITH DELHI AGREEMENT. HE INDICATED BANGLADESH ALREADY IN TOUCH WITH DELHI TO DECIDE TIME AND VENUE OF CONFERENCE WHICH, ACCORDING TO HIM, WILL BE AT THE FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL FIRST, "AND THEN WE SHALL MEET".

8. WHEN TOLD THAT THERE WAS GROWING ANTI-INDIAN FEELING IN BANGLADESH, HE REPLIED: "SOME VESTED INTERESTS AND FOREIGN POWERS" WERE OUT TO CREATE BAD BLOOD BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. HE SAID INDIA HAS NOT INTERFERED IN BANGLADESH AFFAIRS AND VICE-VERSA.

ANNENBERG

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, DETENTE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON02652
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740375/aaaacrup.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUN 2002 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <03 DEC 2002 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRIENDLY COMMENTS ON PAKISTAN FROM SHAIKH MUJIB
TAGS: PFOR, BD, IN, PK, (SHAIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005